

In accordance with 38 U.S.C. 8301, VA is authorized to accept donations or gifts for the benefit of patients. This list of needs is provided to inform potential donors or gift givers of the needs of the local facility to "care for those who have borne the battle."

Financial Donation Opportunities

The following is a list of financial donation opportunities at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Houston. Your donations are greatly appreciated. *GPF= General Post Fund*

GPF 9002 – Recreation Therapy Fund:

Donations used to facilitate patient therapeutic activities for leisure education programs, such as admission to sporting events, movies, and providing lunch for patients while on community outings.

GPF 9003 – Patient Holiday Fund:

Donations used for purchase of patient Holiday gifts, so every in-patient will receive a gift.

GPF 9004 – Social Work Emergency Fund:

Established to provide assistance to Veterans and their families during times of need, it is used to cover those costs that are not part of the veteran's healthcare benefit package and for family members caring for a disabled or ill veteran.

GPF 9006 – General Patient Fund:

Donations used to assist veterans and/or their families with general patient activities, including the Patient Coffee Cart Program.

GPF 9012 - Social Work Service Homeless:

Donations used to assist homeless veterans find temporary housing. It allows them time to rest, recuperate, and regain the ability to care for themselves.

GPF 9013 – OEF/OIF Program

Donations used in support of returning veterans.

GPF 9019 – Women Veterans Program:

Donations used to support the Women Veterans Program, such as Women Veterans Recognition Week, facilitating the purchase of recognition certificates, refreshments, and gifts to our women veterans.

GPF 9031 – Fisher House:

Donations used to support special needs of the Fisher House.

GPF 9032 – Special Recreation/Patient Activities:

Donations used to support special patient programs, such as the National Veterans Golden Age Games.

GPF 9319 – Domiciliary

Donations used to support the Domiciliary Care Homeless Veterans Program, a residential program for veterans located on Fannin. Veterans residing at the Domiciliary live in an apartment type setting while receiving treatment.

Monetary Donations should be made payable to:

Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center
Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (00A/00C-135)-D
2002 Holcombe Blvd.
Houston, Texas 77030

In the memo portion of the check, please indicate the GPF # and the intent.

SUGGESTED NON-MONETARY DONATIONS

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Afghan (bed size)	Puzzles (new & under 500 pieces)
Lap Robes, Wheel chair & Walker bags	DVD's
Socks	Phone Cards (15, 30, 60 min's)
New or gently used clothing items (men & women) <u>No stains, holes or cigarette smoke odor.</u>	New/Gently used Board Games
Undergarments in unopened packages	New/Gently used Wii or Playstation 3 games
Caps/Hats	New/Gently used handheld games & batteries
Playing Cards	

TRAVEL SIZE TOILETRY ITEMS

toothpaste/toothbrush
Shampoo/conditioner
powder, deodorant, shaving cream, lotion,
non-alcoholic mouthwash
combs, brushes, nail clippers

READING/STATONARY

Hard Cover Books
Paperback Books, Crossword Puzzle books
Magazines
Books on Tape

ITEMS WE CANNOT ACCEPT:

Anything containing alcohol or tobacco	Furniture
Anything with glass	Wheelchairs
Inappropriate reading material	Prosthetic items
Any items that are in unacceptable condition	Scooters
Computers	Crutches

It is requested that a drop off time be scheduled for items, as we do not accept unattended donations. Please contact the Voluntary Service Office (Room 2A-104), Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at (713) 794-7135 to arrange for acceptance of your donation.

VA accepting officials may decide to reject offers of gifts or donations of items for any reason including because there is no anticipated need for the items or the maintenance of the items would be out of proportion to their value. We are responsible for providing safe and clean donations. Items that do not meet these criteria will be refused.

The Internal Revenue Service has announced that under the Tax Code, donations to the Department of Veterans Affairs' General Post Fund for exclusively public purposes are deductible from federal income taxes in the manner and to the extent allowable. The announcement reflects the tax law provision which makes those donations deductible as "donations to the United States."

A donation to support any of the Department's programs are deductible, whether the donor directs that the donated funds be used for a specific purpose or allows the Department to decide how the donated funds will be used.

For further information, contact the Volunteer Office at (713)794-7135 or vhahouvolunteer@va.gov

Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center (MEDVAMC)

Book and Magazine Donation Guideline

Overview

MEDVAMC welcomes donations of hardbacks and paperbacks. These donations help enrich and improve our resources. MEDVAMC accepts books as donations with the understanding that they may be added to the collection or distributed throughout the medical center.

Guidelines for Accepting Donations

MEDVAMC has a responsibility for providing safe, clean materials for VA patients. Therefore all items accepted **must not** have:

- Mold or mildew
- Wet pages
- Insect markings or droppings
- Large areas of pages previously wet but now dry
- Spider webs
- Excessive dust
- Cigarette smoke odor

If we receive materials meeting any of the criteria listed above, they will be destroyed. Please understand that materials donated should always be in good condition.

Receipts

The MEDVAMC will not appraise donations for tax purposes. Voluntary Service *provides a receipt for tax purposes for donations*.

Delivery of Donated Materials

It is requested that a drop off time be scheduled for items, as we do not accept unattended donations. Please contact the Voluntary Service Office (Room 2A-104), Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at (713) 794-7135 to arrange for acceptance of your donation.